

EDITORIAL PAGE

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Footnote to Past History

A year ago the world looked very different. The Kennedy administration had not yet hit the stride of jaded men. The second Cuban debacle was still a few months ahead. We then had missile bases in Turkey and the Mediterranean. South America was rather quiet. Mexico was full of confetti for Mr. Kennedy. Everyone predicted that England would soon overcome her reluctance and join the Common Market. It seemed equally improbable that mobs would swarm through American streets, that the U. S. would propose virtual unilateral disarmament, and that Barry Goldwater would be a serious contender for the Republican nomination.

A year ago the most that excitement offered was the Walker affair. The Department of State was circulating its little blue pamphlet on the three-stage disarmament plan. There were rumors that military participation in anti-Communist seminars was being mysteriously squelched.

It was then that plain Mr. Edwin Walker came before the Stennis Preparedness Subcommittee, promising sensational revelations. As expected, Mr. Walker came on strong—too strong, even, for many who had high

Pressed further, Mr. Walker cited Dean Rusk, who had been a member of the Institute of Pacific Relations in the agrarian reform days.

Senator BARTLETT. You have named Secretary Rusk. Do you have anyone else in mind?

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Walter Rostow, Walt—I believe it is Rostow—who has been in control of the operating arm of the CIA, I believe, since 1954.

Few of Mr. Walker's statements excited higher indignation. Was this not the product of a particularly violent imagination? Why, everyone knew that Professor Rostow had been teaching at MIT until he joined the State Department.

A few weeks later another Senate Subcommittee (Internal Security) held hearings on an entirely different matter: the problem of security regulations in the State Department, the new passport regulations, and the William Wieland case. On June 12 (although testimony was not released until months later), the Subcommittee questioned Andreas F. Lowenfeld, special assistant to Abram Chayes, legal adviser to the State Department. At one point the testimony ran like this:

Mr. SOURWINE. Were you ever, Mr. Lowenfeld, connected in any way with the CIA?

Mr. LOWENFELD. Not in any direct way. The reason that I hesitate in my answer is that I was connected with the Center for International Studies at MIT.

Mr. SOURWINE. That was during what period of time?

Mr. LOWENFELD. That was 1961-1962. And they had some kind of contact with the CIA.

Mr. SOURWINE. Did you know that the Center for International Studies was a CIA operation?

Mr. LOWENFELD. I was never formally told but it became apparent.

Mr. SOURWINE. Was Mr. Rostow in charge up there when you were there?

Mr. LOWENFELD. He was acting as a guest—and then Mr. Walker came and worked for Mr. Rostow, yes.

Mr. SOURWINE. What was your position with him?

Mr. LOWENFELD. Well, I was a member. Originally there were only two or four staff positions. I had on various projects and then I was with him and Eastern Europe.



ROSTOW

WALKER

hopes for him. No master of the subtleties of public propagandizing, the former general shocked his fellows and was the butt of distortion by many news writers. On the second day of the hearings, April 5, Mr. Walker was pressed to name names in the "control apparatus" which he discerned in the government:

Mr. WALKER. I cannot identify those that are completely in control of the apparatus. I cannot identify those who appear to think on the same lines as the apparatus, which has been a "no win"

So far as we know, no one has wanted out this confirmation of Mr. Walker's charges against Rostow. A year before this testimony, Rostow had given a speech to the U. S. Army Special Warfare Center (June 23, 1961) setting forth the theory that "Americans do not seek victory in usual sense." This speech, entitled "Countering Guerrilla Attack" was printed in 1962 in an official manual, *Special Warfare, U. S. Army*. According to the Foreword by the Secretary of the Army, commanders were expected "to draw upon this material for training and troop information programs." Was it any wonder General Walker's pro-victory information program brought v

to high places? The year that has passed has seen the declaration of independence and the growth of Africa. It has seen the crushing of independent Katanga, and the emergence of the Communist into academic respectability. Counter-insurgency troops which Walker warned of have been among the citizens of Georgia. Techniques of civilian control have been refined in Oxford; they were rehearsed in Tuscaloosa. Mr. Walker has had his constitutional rights from him. The President has executive orders directing the Secretary of Defense to prepare to prevent disorder, and the Secretary acknowledges that he has done so. It has been an eventful year. We doubt that Mr. Walker was surprised.